

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION No.206

TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2016

SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD UNDER ICDS

206 SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism put in place to check the quality of supplementary foods provided to States under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme;
- (b) whether the Government has issued guidelines to the States to conduct periodical test/checking of the food supplements in laboratories, so as to ensure their quality;
- (c) if so, the number of laboratories notified by the Government for testing of food supplements in this regard;
- (d) the details of States/UTs that have complied/not complied with the above guidelines, State/UT-wise during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the action taken against the non compliant States?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a to e): A statement is placed on the table of the house.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a to e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.206 FOR 11.03.2016 ON 'SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD
UNDER ICDS'**

(a) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme; however, States/UTs are responsible for the implementation of Scheme including provision of supplementary nutrition to children (6 months to 6 years), pregnant women and lactating mothers as per the nutritional norms and guidelines of the Scheme. The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) of this Ministry in collaboration with the State Governments/UTs carries out periodic checks to ensure prescribed standards with reference to nutritional norms are adhered to and maintained properly. The States/UTs have also been advised to identify and involve Government Food Analysis Laboratories to get the SNP samples analyzed

(b) The Operational Guidelines for Food Safety and Hygiene in ICDS have been issued by the Ministry to all the States/UTs on 24.12.2013, followed by a circular dated 26.09.2014 *inter alia* linking release of funds under SNP to submission of a certificate of adherence to these guidelines. The guidelines dated 24.12.2013 provide for periodical test checking of the food so as to ensure quality. The State/UTs were further directed on 23.06.2015 to submit a time-bound action plan for ensuring quality and hygiene standards of food under SNP.

Further, the Government has introduced a 5-tier monitoring and review mechanism at National, State, District, Block and Anganwadi Levels for which guidelines were issued on 31.3.2011. Under these guidelines, monitoring of quality of supplementary nutrition is one of the roles of the State, District, Block and Anganwadi Level Committees.

(c) The supplementary food provided under ICDS is analyzed through four quality control laboratories of FNB located at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. Further, the States/UTs have also been advised to identify and involve Government Food Analysis Laboratories to get the SNP samples analyzed.

(d & e) So far, five States/UTs, i.e., Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Kerala, Assam, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have certified adherence to guidelines of food safety. The remaining States are advised from time to time to submit the required certification.
